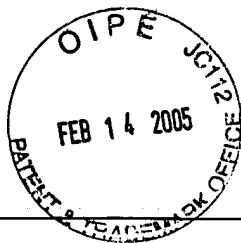


AK/ITW



PATENT

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date set forth below.

Roberta Sherman

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Signature of Person Mailing Paper

February 10, 2005

Date of Deposit

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial Number: 10/026,667  
Filing Date: 12/21/2001  
Applicant(s): Raul R. Mena  
Entitled: Implant Fixation Device  
Examiner: Cary E. O'Connor  
Group Art Unit: 3732  
Attorney Docket No.: 17147-11

---

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated May 04, 2004, please amend and reconsider the above-identified Patent Application as follows, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116: